



AFFORDABLE CARE ACT MASSACHUSETTS IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

February 18, 2011

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These Updates, published by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) in consultation with the other state agencies involved in ACA implementation, will bring you news related to the implementation of provisions of the ACA here in Massachusetts.

Grant Activity

2/16/11 A consortium of the six New England states led by Massachusetts (MassHealth and the Health Connector) received a \$35,591,333 "Early Innovator" grant from HHS under section 1331 of the ACA. The Cooperative Agreements to Support Innovative Exchange Information Technology Systems grants will fund design and implementation of the Information Technology infrastructure needed to operate Exchanges. The proposed project approach will be to create and build a flexible Exchange information technology framework to serve both Medicaid and the Exchange in Massachusetts, and to share those products with other New England states. UMASS is supporting the states in this effort.

For specific information on state projects, visit:

<http://www.healthcare.gov/news/factsheets/exchanges02162011a.html>

Guidance

2/17/11 HHS/CMS filed a proposed rule regarding **payment adjustment for provider-preventable conditions** including health care-acquired conditions, §2702. This provision directs the HHS Secretary to issue Medicaid regulations effective as of July 1, 2011 prohibiting federal payments to states for any amounts expended for providing medical assistance for health care-acquired conditions. It would also authorize states to identify other provider-preventable conditions for which Medicaid payment would be prohibited.

Comments are due 3/18/2011.

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2011/pdf/2011-3548.pdf>

Note that the guidance listed in this section dates back to February 9, 2011. Prior guidance can be viewed at www.healthcare.gov

Upcoming Events

Next Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act Implementation meeting

Wednesday March 2, 2011 from 3:00-4:00 P.M.

1 Ashburton Place, 21st floor, Boston